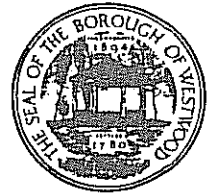


# BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD



TELEPHONE (201) 664-7100 • FAX (201) 664-5340 • 101 WASHINGTON AVENUE • WESTWOOD, NJ 07675

November 4, 2011

Re: Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant Funding

Dear Resident:

On Thursday afternoon, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Borough officials met with representatives of FEMA and the New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management. The purpose of the meeting was to review grant funding opportunities that have recently become available through increased appropriations from the Federal government for disaster relief in the wake of the effects of Hurricane Irene. FEMA has identified thirteen (13) communities in the State of New Jersey as high priority to receive funding through this program. Due to the extensive damage to properties in our borough, Westwood has been included to receive assistance through this new program.

Approximately \$45,000,000 is available; however, the funds must be obligated by December 31, 2011. Your property has been identified as a possible candidate for inclusion in this program that will fund the purchase or elevation of flood prone properties. Not all property owners who receive this letter will meet the criteria for participation. If you are interested in having FEMA representatives conduct an analysis of your property for inclusion in the Floodprone Property Acquisition Project, please fill out and return the enclosed form. Participation in this program is strictly voluntary. Once the enclosed Notice of Voluntary Interest has been returned, FEMA representatives will conduct a cost benefit analysis and other evaluations to determine if your property meets the criteria. FEMA representatives will be available to assist the property owners and the borough through each step of the process.

A meeting to review all of the details of the program, as well as a question and answer session with FEMA representatives, has been scheduled for Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The tentative meeting time is 10:00 AM at Borough Hall. Please visit the Borough's website at [www.westwoodnj.gov](http://www.westwoodnj.gov) for updates and confirmation of the meeting time.

If you are interested in applying, please return your Notice of Interest to the Borough by Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The form can be mailed or dropped off at the Borough Clerk's Office, 101 Washington Avenue, Westwood, NJ 07675. The Governing Body and I, as well as our professional staff, have been working diligently to develop meaningful relief for our residents that have suffered from repetitive losses due to flooding events. We believe that this is a positive step in that direction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Borough of Westwood

John Birkner, Jr. -Mayor

Enclosure  
c: Councilmembers

Borough of Westwood  
101 Washington Avenue  
Westwood, New Jersey 07675  
(201) 664-7100

## Notice of Voluntary Interest

### Floodprone Property Acquisition Project Homeowner Interest Sign-up Sheet and Voluntary Interest Notice

Please complete this form if you are interested in exploring further your options for reducing your flood losses. Signing this does not commit you to any action.

Property Address:

Owner(s) Mailing Address:

Owner(s) Name(s):

Contact Telephone Number:

**The local government is required by FEMA to inform you that your participation in this project for open-space acquisition is voluntary. Neither the *State* nor the *Local Government* will use its eminent domain authority to acquire the property for open-space purposes if you choose not to participate in a Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program, or if negotiations fail.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owners Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owners Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owners Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date